REMARKS

This Response is submitted in reply to the Final Office Action dated May 24, 2004. Claims 1, 2, 23, 24, 28, 35, 40, 41, 45, 50, 53, 56, 57, 61, 62, 63 and 67 to 75 have been amended. Claims 76 to 83 have been added. No new matter has been added by any of the amendments made herein. A Petition for a One-Month Extension of time is submitted herein. A check in the amount of $254.00 is submitted herein to cover the cost of the One-Month extension and the new claims. Please charge Deposit Account 02-1818 for any insufficiency or to credit any overpayment.

Claims 1 to 7, 11 to 19, 21 to 32, 36 to 45, 48 to 58, 60 to 64 and 67 to 75 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Japanese Publication No. 11-033163 ("JP '163"). Claims 8-10, 20, 33 to 35 and 59 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over JP '163. Claims 46-52 and 63-66 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,848,932 to Adams (*"Adam"*) in view of U.S. Patent No. 3,800,451 to Bulkley (*"Bulkley"*) and in further view of U.S. Patent No. 5,580,055 to Hagiwara (*"Hagiwara"*). Applicants respectfully submit that the rejections have been overcome or are improper for the following reasons.

Amended Claim 1 is directed to a gaming device including a housing, a refractive light display connected to the housing where the refractive light display includes a first side and a second side and where the first side of the refractive light display includes a first refractive surface and a second refractive surface. The first and second refractive surfaces each having a first end and a second end. The first end of the first refractive surface is at a point on the first side and the first send of the second refractive surface is at a different spaced-apart point on the first side. The first refractive surface and the second refractive surface define at least part of a groove in the first side of the refractive light display. The gaming device includes at least one light source connected to the housing for directing light into the refractive light display and a processor for controlling the light source to selectively direct light into the refractive light display to pass the light through the first and second refractive surfaces and illuminate at least part of the groove defined by the first and second refractive surfaces in the first side of the refractive light

display in coordination with a game function. Applicants respectfully submit that JP '163 does not disclose, teach or suggest all of the elements of amended Claim 1.

JP '163 is directed to a display for a game machine which illuminates winning lines on one phase of a transparent board. Specifically, JP '163 describes a display unit 30 that includes a transparent board 20, a reflection plate 21 for utilizing the light directed into the transparent board efficiently and LEDs 24 which direct the light into the board. Triangular section grooves 23 are formed to display the positions of the winning lines 22 on the back side or face of the transparent board 20 (see the Abstract). The light directed from the LEDs 24 goes into the transparent board 20 and is reflected by the reflection faces 23 of the groove and goes out the front of the transparent board. The light that does not contact reflection faces 23 is repeatedly reflected by the inner wall and the reflection plate 21 until the light reaches the reflection faces 23 and is directed out the transparent board 20. The reflection of light illuminates winning lines 22. Therefore, JP '163 uses reflection to reflect light from reflective surfaces 23 to illuminate the surfaces which is contrary to the claimed invention which refracts light through a first refractive surface and a second refractive surface to illuminate a groove formed by the first and second refractive surfaces in the first side of the refractive light display.

Reflection is the "abrupt change of direction of a wave light from an interface between two dissimilar media so that the wave returns to the medium from which it originated." (See, the attached definition from www.wordiq.com/definition/reflection_(physics)). On the contrary, refraction is the bending of light as it passes from one medium into another. Therefore, reflection reflects or does not allow the light to pass through the reflected surface or medium whereas refraction is light that bends as it passes through one medium to another medium. JP '163 uses reflection to reflect light from a surface to illuminate that surface wherein the claimed invention refracts light through the first and second refractive surfaces to illuminate a groove formed by the first and second refractive surfaces. JP '163 therefore teaches away from the claimed invention by reflecting the light instead of refracting the light through the surfaces that form the notch or groove to illuminate the winning lines 22 formed by the notch or groove in the surface of the board 20.

For at least these reasons, amended Claim 1 and Claims 2 to 27 and 68 which depend from amended Claim 1, are each patentably distinguished from JP '163 and are in condition for allowance.

Amended Claims 28, 40, 45, 50, 56, 57 and 61 each include certain similar elements to amended Claim 1. In particular, these claims include a refractive light display mounted in a housing that includes a first side and a second side where the first side of the refractive light display includes a first refractive surface and a second refractive surface. The first and second refractive surfaces each include a first end and a second end. The first end of the first refractive surface is at a point on the first side and the first end of the second refractive surface is at a different spaced-apart point on the first side. The first refractive surface and the second refractive surface define at least part of a groove in the first side of the refractive light display. These claims also include the element of a processor which controls the light source to selectively direct the light into the refractive light display to pass the light through the first and second refractive surfaces and illuminate at least part of the groove defined by the first and second refractive surfaces in the first side of the refractive light display. As described above, JP '163 does not disclose, teach or suggest providing a plurality of refractive surfaces that form a groove on the first side of a refractive light display to pass light through the first and second refractive surfaces to illuminate the groove.

Accordingly, amended Claims 28, 40, 45, 50, 56, 57, and 61 and Claims 29 to 39, 41 to 44, 46 to 49, 51 to 55, 58 to 60, 62, 69 to 70, 71 to 75 and new claims 76 to 83, which depend therefrom, are each patentably distinguished from JP '163 and are in condition for allowance.

Similarly, independent Claims 63 and 67 are method claims that include certain similar elements to Claims 28, 40, 45, 50, 56, 57 and 61. Generally, the method claims are directed to a method for operating a gaming device including activating a symbol display including a plurality of symbols in a game and causing a light source to direct light into at least one edge of a refractive light display adjacent to the symbol display. The method also includes refracting the light through a first refractive surface and a second refractive surface, where the first and second refractive surfaces each have a first end and a second end. The first end of the first refractive surface is at a point on a

side of the refractive light display and the first end of the second refractive surface is at a different spaced-apart point on the side of the refractive light display. The first and second refractive surfaces extend from the side toward another side of the refractive light display and define at least part of a groove in the side of the refractive light display. The light refracting through the first and second refractive surfaces illuminates at least a part of the groove.

For at least the reasons provided above, amended Claims 63 and Claims 64 to 66, which depend therefrom, and Claim 67, are each patentably distinguished from JP '163 and are in condition for allowance.

An earnest endeavor has been made to place this application in condition for formal allowance and in the absence of more pertinent art such action is courteously solicited. If the Examiner has any questions regarding this Response, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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